



# BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS

2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300A, Sacramento, CA 95833 (916) 263-2113 Fax (916) 263-2099

Website: [www.dca.ca.gov/geology](http://www.dca.ca.gov/geology) E-mail: [geology@dca.ca.gov](mailto:geology@dca.ca.gov)

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

## CONTRIBUTE TO THE ASBOG EXAMINATION

Beginning in spring 2000, the Board will require each applicant to pass the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) examination in order to be licensed as a Registered Geologist in California. The examination consists of two parts, Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and the Practice of Geology (PG). The FG is designed to test skills acquired in an academic setting. The PG emphasizes skills and knowledge acquired in the geological profession.

**The Board requests licensees to submit questions for evaluation and submittal to ASBOG for possible inclusion in the FG or PG examination. If you would like to submit questions, please copy and complete one Item Writing Form (on the reverse side of this Information Bulletin) for each question and return it to the Board at: 2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300A, Sacramento, CA 95833.**

## TECHNICAL EXPERTS NEEDED

The Board must increase the number of technical experts available to review enforcement cases. Cases may include negligence, incompetence, misrepresentation and unlicensed practice. Expert opinion is required to define technical adequacy and establish boundaries of professional conduct and standard of practice.

Technical experts must be licensed in California and, in some cases, may need a specialty certification. If a case results in a hearing, an expert may be called to testify in court as the Board's expert witness. The

Board pays its technical experts an hourly rate for review and testimony.

If you are interested in becoming a technical expert for the Board, please send a curriculum vita describing your experience and areas of expertise (e.g., landslides, fault investigations, seismic hazards, groundwater, etc.) to Paul Sweeney, Executive Officer.

## CRITERIA-REFERENCE PASS POINT WORKSHOP

The Board requests licensed volunteers to participate in a two-day spring workshop on criteria-reference pass points for examination purposes.

To develop a pass point, subject matter experts provide estimates of the probability that a candidate of "Minimum Acceptable Competence" would be able to correctly answer a multiple-choice question or problem. The pass point is a function of the sum of the probability estimates from the subject matter experts.

Each workshop participant must (1) be a Registered Geologist, (2) have renewal fees paid as required, (3) have no accusation or other legal action filed against him or her by any agency or government and (4) have not been disciplined by the Board.

If you would like to participate, please send a curriculum vita to Paul Sweeney, Executive Officer.

**The Board thanks everyone who participated in the fall 1998 workshops and welcomes spring 1999 participants.**

**CALIFORNIA VOLUNTEERED QUESTION  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF GEOLOGY**

**Item Writing Form**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **License No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exam (FG or PG):** \_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION/STEM:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER/OPTIONS (Place \* before Key):**

- A.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**B.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**C.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**D.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference/Source (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**GENERAL ITEM WRITING SUGGESTIONS**

1. Each Item should have only one correct answer.
2. Use language that is simple and direct.
3. Keep the overall purpose of the question in mind.
4. Avoid writing trick items.
5. Avoid writing items that assess the candidates' knowledge of trivial information.
6. Items should be written at an entry level of difficulty for the practice of geology.

**STEM/QUESTION ITEM WRITING SUGGESTIONS**

1. The stem/question should adequately describe the problem or situation. If important information is missing from the stem, candidates will make assumptions that are untrue.
2. The stem should contain as much of the item's content as possible. Also include any words that should be repeated in each option.
3. Avoid negatively worded stems/questions, if possible. If negatives are used, underline and capitalize the word **NOT**.